The Government has constituted a Committee of Officers from the Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, Home Affairs, External Affairs, Defence and Law to render advice on complaints regarding any programme of any channel not being in conformity with the prescribed Programme Code. Government has constituted another committee to look into violations of the Advertising Code.

In so far as the Print Media is concerned, the Government does not interfere in the matters relating to the Press. The Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory authority established for preserving the freedom of the Press and for maintaining and improving the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. PCI has set the Norms for Journalists Conduct according to which Newspapers/ Journalists shall not publish anything which is obscene, vulgar or offensive to public good taste.

The Government has enacted the Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986 to prohibit indecent representation of women through advertisements or in publications, writings, paintings, figures or in any other manner. In addition, legal provisions exist in various statutes to deal with indecent publications.

All films, including advertisement films, intended for public exhibition in India are required to be certified by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) in accordance with the provisions of the Cinematograph Act, 1952 and the guidelines issued thereunder. CBFC, while examining films for certification, ensures, *inter-alia,* that human sensibilities are not offended by vulgarity, obscenity, depravity, sex and violence.

Low conviction rate in Criminal Courts

2005. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the conviction rate in Criminal Courts is low in the country;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to improve the conviction rate in the interest of the general public; and

(d) if so, the details of the measures taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Low conviction rate is due to various reasons which, *inter-alia,* include delays and deficiencies in investigation, witness protection measures, delays in courts and weaknesses in judicial infrastructure.

(c) and (d) A Committee has been appointed under Justice V.S. Malimath to suggest measures for revamping of Criminal Justice System.

Success and failure of Fast Track Courts

2006. PROF. M. SANKARALINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the exception of Pune, out of 1713 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) in the country, Government have set-up only 1,080 courts;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have analysed the success of Pune and failure of FTCs in other parts of the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per available information, out of the earmarked 1734 Fast Track Courts, 1150 courts have been set up in the country as on 31st July, 2002. The primary responsibility of setting up Fast Track Courts is that of the State Governments and the High Courts. The Central Government is constantly persuading the State Government and the High Courts to make all the Fast Track Courts functional as soon as possible.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e)The Supreme Court in its order dated 6th May, 2002 in the case of Brij Mohan Lai *Vs.* Union of India & Ors. has given direction to set up all Fast Track Courts in the country by 5th August, 2002.The direction of the